

For Immediate Release

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October 3, 2000

CH2M HILL Hanford Group's third million safe hours shows commitment to safety

Richland, WA -- For the third time in as many years, CH2M HILL Hanford Group employees have worked one million hours without a lost-time injury. This milestone represents approximately four consecutive months of safe work from CH2M HILL employees.

"We've always known our safety performance is good," said Fran DeLozier, CH2M HILL president and general manager. "This third million safe work hours just reinforces our resolve to continually improve."

Working with the Department of Energy Office of River Protection, CH2M HILL personnel are demonstrating record productivity as well as record safety performance. In the past four months, among other things, the company has successfully transitioned to a new Safe Project Delivery organization structure, initiated work as the interim vitrification plant design and construction contractor, completed groundbreaking vadose zone sampling, continued work on Project 314 infrastructure installation, and retrieved thousands of gallons of liquid waste from single-shell tanks.

"Please accept my congratulations and thanks," said Ralph Peterson, president and chief executive officer of CH2M HILL, Inc., the parent company of CH2M HILL Hanford Group. "Exemplary safety performance is a critical, critical success factor for our future at Hanford. The strong safety leadership is paying dividends," he said.

"Teamwork made this happen," said Joe Rodriguez, co-chair of the President's Accident Prevention Council. "People speaking up at meetings, sharing safety concerns and mishaps, letting people know that accidents can happen right here in our own backyards and not just in the news."

DeLozier agrees and gives workers due credit for once again accomplishing these productivity and safety triumphs. She also challenged them to do even better.

"If we continue to demonstrate our commitment to safety and to each other, we can eliminate every unsafe act in our work places," DeLozier said.